

\$400,000 for Local Law Enforcement and \$250,000 to Support After-School Programs

□ Washington, DC – Friday, Congressman Harry Teague announced that two critical projects in the 2nd congressional district have been approved by the House of Representatives in the Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Bill. As part of the bill, \$400,000 in funding was approved for a new technology project that will create a uniform record management system for Valencia county law enforcement and \$250,000 in funding was approved to expand after-school programs in Las Cruces.

“Both of these programs represent significant investments in keeping our streets and neighborhoods safe,” said Congressman Harry Teague “As a result of this bill and the Recovery Act we passed earlier this year, we’ll be able to boost crime prevention in our local communities.”

The funding for Valencia County will allow all law enforcement in the County including the municipalities of Los Lunas, Belen, Bosque Farms, and Peralta to better communicate and share records with new technology that will be installed in police vehicles.

“This funding for Valencia County will help our local communities by making communication between law enforcement easier and life for criminals harder,” said Congressman Harry Teague. “I’m proud to have voted for this funding to give the hardworking men and women in law enforcement better tools to protect the public.”

The City of Las Cruces will be able to expand after-school programs that serve youth that have been identified as chronically truant. Youth, family members, and stakeholders work with a case manager to develop a course of action. Community resources to address the problem might include linking them to mental health agencies, after school tutors, Boys and Girls Club, or mentoring programs. According to the US Department of Education truant students have a higher risk than non-truant students of involvement in drug and alcohol use, violence, and gang activity.

“Too often kids fall through the cracks, this funding will help our youth develop a plan to get back on track,” said Congressman Harry Teague “The expansion of these after school programs will help kids who need support by allowing them work with the appropriate networks to get them the help they need.”

The bill is headed to the Senate for consideration.

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